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WASHINGTON

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger today flew to California, where a nuclear freeze proposal has become an election issue, and denounced the idea from a church pulpit.

In remarks prepared for delivery at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, Weinberger said a proposed freeze on production and deployment of nuclear weapons would make the world more dangerous. A copy of the speech was released by the Pentagon.

"A freeze now not only would not reduce the probability of war but would greatly add to the dangers we all face," he said.

He restated the administration's argument that a freeze would be a boon to the Kremlin, which he said has more nuclear weapons than the United States. He said the Soviet Union would never negotiate to reduce the number of these weapons once it had won such a frozen-in advantage.

Voters in California and several other states will cast ballots on non-binding freeze resolutions in the November 2 election. The freeze also is an issue in the Senate race between Democratic Governor Jerry Brown, a supporter, and Republican Mayor Pete Wilson of San Diego, a freeze opponent.

In the face of public criticism, the Brown campaign recently withdrew a controversial television ad attacking Wilson's stand on the freeze issue and picturing an atomic mushroom cloud.

A citizens lobby group announced in Washington today that California will be one of 10 states where it will air another television ad intended to defeat incumbent congressmen who oppose the freeze. The target there is Republican Don Clausen, who represents a northern district of the state.

A spokesman for the group, Citizens for Common Sense in National Defense, said former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Colby would endorse the California pro-freeze ballot measure tomorrow.

The spokesman said Colby would announce that he was convinced Soviet compliance with a freeze could be verified with existing U.S. surveillance technology.